

STAFFORD COUNTY
HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MINUTES
JULY 1, 2010

- Call to Order. A regular meeting of the Stafford County Historical Commission was called to order by Anita Dodd, at 3:17 P.M., Thursday, July 1, 2010 in Conference Room ABC, Stafford County Administration Center.

- Roll Call. The following members were present: Anita Dodd, Chairperson; Ann Best-Rolls, Vice Chairperson; Cessie Howell, Secretary; and Barbara Kirby. Jane Conner and Frank White were absent.

Also in attendance were: Kathy Baker, Assistant Director, Planning & Zoning; Terry Baxley Morton, Commission Clerk.

- Presentations by the Public. No one from the public was present.

- Virginia Railway Express - Cherry Hill Third Track Project - Phase I Architectural Survey. Anita Dodd explained to Commission members that the land owner of Clifton believes a cemetery is on the property. The Cemetery Committee was researching deed information and visited the property. Mary Cary Kendall remembered the property as a child. Anita Dodd said the only evidence was a stone that someone put back together in pieces. Mary Cary Kendall remembered one broken stone and other stones scattered on the ground in the cemetery. The site she remembers as a child is about 30-40 feet from the existing railroad track. The new line for the railroad track is on the east side where the cemetery is. Anita Dodd said the cemetery would be compromised. The stones the Clifton land owner is referring to are foundation stones not cemetery stones. She said the company involved with the railroad wants to address the cemetery. The Cemetery Committee has taken a GPS and has a survey on the cemetery site. The cemetery is not mentioned in the report since they were not aware of it at the time. Kathy Baker said the Phase I Archeological Report has not been submitted. Anita Dodd said perhaps the cemetery would be included in that report. She said they are only concerned with items impervious with the project. Anita Dodd said part of the area the additional track is going into was disturbed by the 1871 installation of the current tracks. Anita Dodd said the Commission should request a copy of the Archeological Survey. The additional track will be 11 miles long. Most of the cultural resource impact is located in Quantico.

The Commission recommended a respond to Charles Richmond, Architectural Historian, McCormick Taylor, Engineers & Planners with a correspondence located in these minutes as Exhibit A 07.01.10. The report is final not a draft. Anita Dodd said perhaps the recommended changes can be added as an addendum at the end of the report.

- Master's Mill & the Steven's House - Update & Information. Barbara Kirby said a BB&T Bank holds the property Master's Mill is located on. Anita Dodd said she has not been successful contacting bank staff. Supervisor Cord Sterling has contacted bank staff. Barbara Kirby said Commission members and bank staff need to work together to take care of the

property and structure. Cessie Howell said she will call Supervisor Cord Sterling regarding the issue.

Anita Dodd said she was recently on the Steven's property recording a cemetery. She said the house is currently receiving some restoration. She said the house is probably from around 1880, perhaps earlier. It has some federal aspects. She was not able to enter the house. She said the house and property appear to be maintained regularly. This item is deferred.

- Approval of Commission Minutes. Barbara Kirby motioned, seconded by Ann Best-Rolls to approve the May 6, 2010 Commission meeting minutes with two changes.

The Commission Voting Tally was:

Yea	(4)	Best-Rolls, Dodd, Howell, Kirby
Nay	(0)	
Absent	(2)	Conner, White

Cessie Howell motioned, seconded by Barbara Kirby to approve the June 3, 2010 Commission meeting minutes with minor changes.

The Commission Voting Tally was:

Yea	(4)	Best-Rolls, Dodd, Howell, Kirby
Nay	(0)	
Absent	(2)	Conner, White

- Assess & Provide Recommendations to the Agricultural/Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) Committee for PDR Criteria Verbiage. Kathy Baker said the PDR Committee is not meeting this month. She will send the revisions to Historical Commission members. Anita Dodd said landscape definitions should be incorporated into the criteria. The Commission agreed the Secretary of the Interior Standards and criteria for the National Registry should be added as well. This item is deferred.

- Discussion of Proposed Ordinance O06-47 dated July 18, 2006 regarding Archaeological Surveys & Investigations. At a previous meeting Supervisor Harry Crisp said he would contact the Commission with comments and suggestions. Anita Dodd asked if the title of the ordinance could be changed. Kathy Baker answered yes. This item is deferred.

- Continue Revising the Historic Preservation Award Process. Discussion ensued. This item is deferred.

- Value of Billboards for Future Removal. Kathy Baker spoke with staff at Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT). She was told VDOT no longer handles billboards, it is contracted out. There is currently no one under contract. She said she was not able to contact Lamar who owns billboards in the County. She has reviewed reports regarding billboards. She said there is limited physical value; the value is basically the cost of the structure. Personal property is typically under \$1,000. The advertising revenue is going to vary depending on who is advertising on the signs. Cessie Howell said she is going to contact staff at Medicorp regarding their billboards. Barbara Kirby said L.E.D. billboards are dangerously distracting. This item is deferred.

- Report by Commission Chairperson. Anita Dodd wrote a letter over a year ago regarding Westlake Development. She said a Phase IA Report was conducted on the property. She informed the developer the study was not sufficient and a Phase I would need to be submitted.

County staff and Commission members are trying to get archeological and architectural reports to Commission members in a timelier manner for review.

- Reports by Commission Members. Cessie Howell asked Kathy Baker if any new development has transpired in Widewater. Barbara Kirby said she is concerned as well. Kathy Baker said the Draft Comprehensive Plan is on the County's website. She said the plan is going back for review to the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors which contains some recommendations. She said there is mention of an Urban Development Area at Widewater and possibly an additional Virginia Railway Express (VRE) station.

Ann Best-Rolls asked about the revision of the Plan Review Process. Kathy Baker said all aspects of review are currently being discussed. She said there may be a joint area between Public Works and Planning & Zoning with one receiving area for the public.

- Adjournment. At 4:30 P.M., the Chairperson declared the meeting adjourned.

Anita Dodd - Chairperson

Ann Best-Rolls - Vice Chairperson